

**AMERICAN CANOE ASSOCIATION
ATHLETE SELECTION PROCEDURES
2024 OLYMPIC GAMES
SPRINT
FEBRUARY 12, 2024**

1. SELECTION SYSTEM

1.1. Provide the minimum eligibility requirements for an athlete to be considered for selection to the Team:

1.1.0. Nationality/Passport requirements:

Athlete must be a national of the United States at the time of nomination.

Athlete must hold a valid U.S. passport that will not expire for six months after the conclusion of the Games.

1.1.1. Minimum International Olympic Committee (IOC) standards for participation:

Any competitor in the Olympic Games must be a national of the country of the National Olympic Committee (NOC) which is entering such competitor. For additional information regarding an athlete who is a national of two or more countries, has changed his or her nationality or acquired a new nationality, refer to the Olympic Charter (Rule 41).

1.1.2. Minimum International Federation (IF) standards for participation (if any):

- Athletes must respect and comply with the provisions of the following:
 - Olympic Charter
 - Rule 41, Nationality of Competitors
 - Rule 43, World Anti-Doping Code
 - Olympic Movement Code on the Prevention of Manipulation of Competitions
- To be eligible to compete in the Olympic Games, all eligible NOCs must participate in at least one (1) Olympic event at the 2023 ICF Canoe Sprint World Championships or the respective Continental Qualification Competition.
- The complete International Canoe Federation (ICF) Canoe Sprint Qualification System and eligibility requirements for the 2024 Olympic Games can be found [here](#)

1.1.3. Other requirements:

- Athlete must be a member in good standing with ACA at the time of nomination.
- Athlete must successfully complete all Games Registration requirements by the stated deadline.
- Any athlete age 18 or older will be required to undergo a background screen in accordance with the current [USOPC Background Check Policy](#).
- Any athlete age 18 or older as of the Closing Ceremony will be required to remain current with the U.S. Center for SafeSport’s education and training requirements in accordance with the [USOPC Athlete Safety Policy](#).
- Athlete must be age 15 or older by December 31, 2024.
- Athlete must complete [ICF Required International Level Athletes Education Program](#) by April 15, 2024.

1.2. Tryout Events:

1.2.1. Event names, dates and locations of all trials, competitions, and camps to be used as part of the selection process:

EVENT	DATES/LOCATION
2023 ICF Canoe Sprint World Championships	August 23-27, 2023 Duisburg, Germany
2024 USA Canoe Sprint Olympic Trials	March 22-23, 2024 Lake Natoma, CA
2024 Continental Qualification Competition	April 23-25, 2024 Sarasota, FL

1.2.2. Describe how athletes qualify for the events listed in 1.2.1.:

Athletes were named to the 2023 ICF Canoe Sprint World Championships Team via the 2023 Senior World Championship Team Selection which can be found here: https://americancanoe.org/competition/teams/olympic-paralympic/sprint/#tab_1

The 2024 USA Canoe Sprint Olympic Trials are open to all current ACA members who meet the minimum eligibility criteria in Section 1.1. The 2024 USA Canoe Sprint Olympic Trials will determine the entries for the 2024 Continental Qualification Competition as noted below.

1.3. Step-by-step description of the selection process for these Games (include maximum Team size):

Each National Olympic Committee (NOC) may nominate a maximum of eighteen (18) athletes for the Games.

Each NOC can qualify quota places for the 2024 Olympic Games (Games) through the Olympic Qualification Competitions (2023 Canoe Sprint World Championships and 2024 Continental Qualification Competition). Quota places are allocated to the NOC and not to the specific athlete who won the quota place on behalf of the NOC at the Olympic Qualification Competition.

An athlete may compete in one (1) or more events at an Olympic Qualification Competition, however, the athlete may obtain only one (1) athlete quota place for their NOC through these competitions.

A. Olympic Events:

Men's Events (5)	Women's Events (5)
Kayak Single (K1) 1000m	Kayak Single (K1) 500m
Kayak Double (K2) 500m	Kayak Double (K2) 500m
Kayak Four (K4) 500m*	Kayak Four (K4) 500m*
Canoe Single (C1) 1000m	Canoe Single (C1) 200m
Canoe Double (C2) 500m	Canoe Double (C2) 500m

*ACA will not participate in either Kayak Four (K4) event at the Games as quota places were not earned at the 2023 Canoe Sprint World Championships.

B. Maximum Quota Places per NOC:

Event	Athlete Quota per NOC	Boat Specific Quota
Men Kayak	6	1 boat per event
Men Canoe	3	1 boat per event
Women Kayak	6	1 boat per event
Women Canoe	3	1 boat per event
Total	18	

1. An NOC may enter a maximum of two (2) boats per event among qualified athletes.
2. The NOC must participate in the event(s) which the NOC originally obtained the athlete quota place and/or boat quotas.
3. All athletes selected by an NOC must compete in at least one (1) Canoe Sprint event at the Games.

4. Athletes must compete in the event(s) that they are entered by the Sport Entries Deadline, but athletes can compete in more than one (1) event including the other category (e.g., Canoe and/or Kayak).

C. 2024 USA Canoe Sprint Olympic Trials (Trials)

1. Olympic Trials are open to all current ACA members who meet the minimum eligibility criteria in Section 1.1.
2. A minimum of thirty (30) days before the start of Olympic Trials, additional information for athletes to review including the final event order, start interval and overall Trials schedule shall be published on the ACA website (<https://americancanoe.org/>).
3. Competition for every event with the exceptions of men's and women's K4s on the Olympic Program will be held at Olympic Trials regardless of whether the ACA has obtained quota places for the Games for the specific event.
4. The winner of each will be named to the prospective Olympic Team and will be the entry to the Continental Qualifier

D. Athlete Nominations to the 2024 Olympic Games

1. Since ACA earned a quota place for the Games in the C1 W200 event at the 2023 World Championships, the winner of the event at Trials will be nominated to the Team and will compete in the C1W200 event at the Games.

E. Athlete Nominations to the 2024 Continental Qualification Competition

1. Since ACA did not earn a quota place for the Games in the men's and women's K1 and K2 events, men's C1 and C2 events, and women's C2 event, the winner of each of these events at Trials will be nominated to the 2024 Continental Qualification Competition for that event.
 - a. The athlete who obtained the quota place in the C1 W200 event cannot participate at the 2024 Continental Qualification Competition.
2. Athletes must accept or decline nomination to the 2024 Continental Qualification Competition by April 1, 2024, via email to Steve Kelly (skelly@americancanoe.org).
3. Athlete Replacement:
 - a. Canoe (C1) or Kayak (K1): If an athlete declines their nomination in a singles event for either Canoe (C1) or Kayak (K1), the next highest placing eligible athlete in the event at Trials will be offered the available spot until the spot is filled.
 - b. Canoe Doubles (C2): If either one, or both athletes decline their nomination in Canoe Doubles (C2), the next highest placing eligible C2 boat in the event at Trials will be offered the available spot until the spot is filled.
 - c. Kayak Doubles (K2): If one athlete declines their nomination in Kayak Doubles (K2), the highest finishing eligible athlete in Kayak Singles (K1) at Trials will be offered the available spot. If both athletes decline their nomination in Kayak Doubles (K2), the two highest finishing eligible

athletes in Kayak Singles (K1) at Trials will be offered the available spots until both spots are filled.

F. 2024 Continental Qualification Competition

1. ACA can only participate at the 2024 Continental Qualification Competition in events where a quota place has not been obtained for the Games.
2. ACA can only nominate an athlete to compete at the 2024 Continental Qualification Competition if the athlete has not already obtained an athlete quota place at the 2023 World Championships.
3. A minimum of three (3) NOCs must contest each athlete quota place at the 2024 Continental Qualification Competition for the event to be eligible. If there are not three (3) or more NOCs in an event, then the athlete quota place(s) will be reallocated to the next highest ranked NOC, in that event, not yet qualified at the 2023 ICF Canoe Sprint World Championships, irrespective of the continent.
4. At the 2024 Continental Qualification Competition, an NOC may only earn up to two (2) athlete quota places in each category for the Games (Kayak men, Kayak women, Canoe men and Canoe women).
 - a. If the ACA earns a quota place in Canoe or Kayak doubles, the ACA will not accept a quota place in the respective singles event. However, ACA athletes are permitted to compete in the respective singles event.
 - b. Alternatively, if the ACA does not earn a quota place for Canoe or Kayak doubles but earns a quota place in the respective singles event, the ACA will accept the singles quota place.
5. All athletes who earn a quota place in an eligible event at the 2024 Continental Qualification Competition will be nominated to the Team and will compete in that event at the Games subject to the maximum quota place restrictions explained above.

G. Athlete Nominations for the Games

1. Once nominated to the Team, athletes must accept or decline the nomination by May 1, 2024, via email to Steve Kelly (skelly@americancanoe.org).
2. Athlete Replacement:
 - a. Canoe (C1) or Kayak (K1): If an athlete declines their nomination in a singles event for either Canoe (C1) or Kayak (K1), the next highest placing eligible athlete in the event at Trials will be offered the available spot.
Canoe Doubles (C2): If either one, or both athletes decline their nomination in Canoe Doubles (C2), the next highest placing eligible C2 boat in the event at Trials will be offered the available spot until the spot is filled.
 - b. Kayak Doubles (K2): If one athlete declines their nomination in Kayak Doubles (K2), the highest finishing eligible athlete in Kayak Singles (K1) at Trials will be offered the available spot. If both athletes decline their nomination in Kayak Doubles (K2), the two highest finishing eligible

athletes in Kayak Singles (K1) at Trials will be offered the available spots until both spots are filled.

In the event of a conflict between this overview and the ICF Qualification System, the ICF Qualification System will take precedent. For more details, please refer to the ICF Qualification System directly here: <https://stillmed.olympics.com/media/Documents/Olympic-Games/Paris-2024/Paris2024-QS-Canoe-Sprint.pdf>

2. DISCRETIONARY SELECTION (if applicable)

- 2.1. Rationale for utilizing discretionary selection (if any): Not Applicable
- 2.2. Define the discretionary criteria to be used (if any): Not Applicable
- 2.3. Name of the committee that will be responsible for making discretionary selections, or other decisions/recommendations directly impacting athletes in the selection process, along with a complete list of the members' titles: Not Applicable
 - 2.3.1. Process that will be used to identify and handle any potential conflicts of interest involving a member of the committee: Not Applicable

3. REMOVAL OF ATHLETES

- 3.1. Prior to submission of athlete entries by name by the USOPC to the Organizing Committee of the Olympic Games, the ACA has jurisdiction over potential nominees.

An athlete who is nominated to the Team by the ACA may be removed for any of the following reasons, as determined by the ACA:

- 3.1.1. Voluntary withdrawal. Athlete must submit a written letter to the ACA Executive Director.
- 3.1.2. Injury or illness as certified by a physician (or medical staff) approved by the ACA. If an athlete refuses verification of his/her illness or injury by a physician (or medical staff) approved by the ACA, his/her injury will be assumed to be debilitating and he/she may be removed.
- 3.1.3. Failure to participate in Mandatory Training and/or Competition as defined in Section 9 of these procedures.
- 3.1.4. Violation of the ACA's Code of Conduct (https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.americancanoe.org/resource/resmgr/competition-documents/code_of_conduct/2019_aca_athlete_code_of_con.pdf)
- 3.1.5. Non-compliance with the eligibility requirements listed in Section 1.1. of these selection procedures.

An athlete who is removed from the Team pursuant to this provision has the right to a hearing per the ACA Bylaws (https://americancanoe.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Gov-013-grievance_rev_8_5_2022-v4.pdf) and the USOPC Bylaws, Section 9.

- 3.2. Once athlete entries have been submitted by the USOPC to the Organizing Committee of the Olympic Games, the USOPC has jurisdiction over the Team, at which time, in addition to any applicable ACA Code of Conduct, the USOPC's Delegation Conduct Requirements apply, contained in the USOPC Games Delegation Terms. The USOPC Games Delegation Terms are specific to each Games and made available during the Games registration process; the USOPC's Grievance Procedures and Hearing Process are found at <https://www.usopc.org/governance/dispute-resolution>.
- 3.3. An athlete may be removed as a nominee to the Team or from the Team for an adjudicated violation of IOC, WADA, IF, USADA and/or USOPC anti-doping protocol, policies and procedures, as well as the U.S. Center for SafeSport Code, the USOPC Athlete Safety Policy and ACA's SafeSport policies, as applicable.

4. REPLACEMENT OF ATHLETES

- 4.1. Describe the selection and approval process for determining replacement athlete(s) should a vacancy occur:
 - 4.1.1. Prior to submission of Entries by Name by the USOPC to the Organizing Committee of the Olympic Games (OCOG), including any applicable group or committee:
 - a. In a singles event for either Canoe (C1) or Kayak (K1), the next highest placing athlete in the event at Trials will be offered the available spot until the spot is filled.
 - b. In Canoe Doubles (C2), if either one or both athletes need to be replaced, the next highest placing eligible C2 boat in the event at Trials will be offered the available spot until the spot is filled.
 - c. In Kayak Doubles (K2), if one athlete declines their nomination, the highest finishing eligible athlete in Kayak Singles (K1) at Trials will be offered the available spot. If both athletes decline their nomination in Kayak Doubles (K2), the two highest finishing eligible athletes in Kayak Singles (K1) at Trials will be offered the available spots until both spots are filled.

- 4.1.2. After submission of Entries by Name by the USOPC to the Organizing Committee of the Olympic Games (OCOG), including any applicable group or committee:

If athlete replacement is allowed by the OCOG, the ACA will follow the process outlined in Section 4.1.1.

- 4.1.3 All replacement athletes must meet all requirements listed in Section 1.1.

5. SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

ACA will retain the approved Selection Procedures and all supporting documents, including scouting or evaluation forms, etc., and data from the selection process for six months past the date of the Closing Ceremony of the Games.

6. REQUIRED DOCUMENTS

In addition to the USOPC Delegation Conduct Requirements, the following documents are required to be signed by an athlete as a condition of nomination to the Olympic Games:

- ACA Code of Conduct:
https://cdn.ymaws.com/www.americancanoe.org/resource/resmgr/competition-documents/code_of_conduct/2023_aca_athlete_code_of_con.pdf

7. PUBLICITY/DISTRIBUTION OF PROCEDURES

The USOPC approved Selection Procedures (complete and unaltered) will be posted/published by the ACA in the following public location(s):

- 7.1. ACA Web site: <https://americancanoe.org/competition/teams/olympic-paralympic/sprint/>

These procedures will be posted as soon as possible, but not more than five business days following notice of approval by the USOPC.

- 7.2. Other:

8. DATE OF NOMINATION

Nomination of athletes, including replacements, will be announced to all athletes and submitted to the USOPC on or before: **June 7, 2024**

9. MANDATORY TRAINING AND/OR COMPETITION

Specify the location, schedule and duration of mandatory training and/or competition:

The dates, locations and schedules of all mandatory training will be announced to all athletes nominated to the Team via email and will be posted at <https://americancanoe.org/> on or before May 1, 2024.

While waivers for mandatory training will not be unreasonably withheld, all athletes nominated to the Team should arrange for appropriate time off from school, work or other obligations in advance. Waivers will primarily be granted for injury or other similar incapacity or for a personal/family emergency. Requests for a waiver must be submitted in writing to the ACA High Performance Manager as far in advance as possible.

10. ANTI-DOPING REQUIREMENTS

Athletes must adhere to all IOC, Pan Am Sports, APC, WADA, IF, USADA and USOPC anti-doping protocols, policies and procedures, as applicable. This includes participation in Out-of-Competition Testing as required by the IOC, Pan Am Sports, APC, WADA, IF, USADA and USOPC rules, as applicable.

11. DEVELOPMENT OF SELECTION PROCEDURES

The following committee/group (include names and titles) was responsible for creating these Selection Procedures:

National Sprint Racing Committee:

Alyson Mrozinski – Chair

Shelley Oates Wilding

Elena Wolgamot, Athlete Representative

Gus Cook, Athlete Representative

Kenny Kasperbauer, AAC representative, Non-Voting Member

Joe Harper, Non-Voting Member

12. NGB BYLAWS AND GRIEVANCE PROCEDURES

The ACA Bylaws and Grievance Procedures can be found at:

- https://americancanoe.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/10/ACA-Bylaws-final-changes-accepted_2022_10_07.pdf
- https://americancanoe.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/Gov-013-grievance_rev_8_5_2022-v4.pdf

13. INTERNATIONAL DISCLAIMER

These procedures are based on IOC, Pan Am Sports, APC, as applicable, and/or ICF rules and regulations as presently known and understood. Any change in the selection procedures caused by a change in IOC, Pan Am Sports, APC, as applicable, and/or ICF rules and regulations will be distributed to the affected athletes immediately. The selection criteria are based on the latest information available to ACA. However, the selection criteria are always subject to unforeseen, intervening circumstances, and realistically may not have accounted for every possible contingency.

If any force of nature, or force majeure, should cause the alteration or cancellation of any of the selection events listed in this document, these selection procedures may require revisions, pursuant to their resubmission to the USOPC.

14. ATHLETE OMBUDS OFFICE

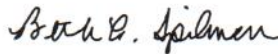
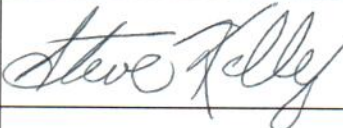

The Athlete Ombuds Office provides cost-free, independent and confidential advice regarding athlete rights, grievance procedures and any other related guidance pertaining to selection procedures and can assist in mediating disputes between athletes and the ACA.

To contact the Athlete Ombuds Office:

PHONE: (719) 866-5000
EMAIL: ombudsman@usathlete.org
WEBSITE: www.usopc.org/athlete-ombuds

15. NGB SIGNATURES

I certify that I have read and understand the standards/criteria set by our IF and incorporated those standards/criteria into our Selection Procedures. I further certify that the information provided herein regarding Athlete Selection Procedures represents the method approved by the American Canoe Association.

Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
ACA Executive Director	Beth Spilman		2/12/24
ACA High Performance Manager	Steve Kelly		2/12/2024
USOPC Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Kenny Kasperbauer		Feb. 12, 2024

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* If the USOPC AAC Representative has delegated authority to the Alternate AAC Representative to sign the Selection Procedures, attach a letter from the AAC Representative indicating the reason he/she has delegated authority.

* Signature by the Athlete Representative constitutes that he/she has read and understands the Selection Procedures. If the Athlete Representative reads and does not agree with the Athlete Selection Procedures being submitted by the ACA, he/she may submit those reasons in writing to his/her USOPC Sport Performance Team.

* If, for some reason, a sport does not have an elected USOPC AAC Representative, the ACA must designate an athlete from that sport to review and sign the Selection Procedures.

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Position	Print Name	Signature	Date
ACA Executive Director	Beth Spilman		
ACA High Performance Manager	Steve Kelly		
USOPC Alternate Athletes' Advisory Council Representative*	Michal Smolen		2.16.2024

Delegation of Authority to sign the Selection Procedures for the 2024 Olympic Games

February 15, 2024

Delegation of Selection Procedure Authority

I, **Kenny Kasperbauer**, the USOPC Team USA Athletes' Commission (Team USA AC) Representative for the American Canoe Association (ACA), hereby delegate my authority to sign the 2024 Olympic Games Selection Procedures to Michal Smolen, the Alternate Team USA AC Representative for the ACA. As an athlete planning to participate in the US Olympic Trials, I have a conflict of interest with regard to these selection procedures.

Kenny Kasperbauer

Signature

Kenny Kasperbauer
USOPC Team USA AC Representative for the ACA

February 15, 2024

Date